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**Israeli Diva & Trio Make Their Cleveland Debut at
The Cleveland Museum of Art on April 4**

Chava Alberstein to Perform as Part of the Viva! Festival of Performing Arts

CLEVELAND (March 26, 2003) — Chava Alberstein is “the most important female musician in Israel’s history,” reports *Yediot Aharonot*, Israel’s largest daily. She and her trio will make their Cleveland debut at the Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) on **Friday, April 4, at 7:30 p.m.** They will be performing as part of the museum’s VIVA! Festival of Performing Arts. Tickets are available for \$27 and \$23 (CMA members \$23 and \$20) by calling (216) 421-7350 or 1-888-CMA-0033 or online at www.ClevelandArt.org.

Singer/songwriter Chava Alberstein has been an important figure in Israeli music since the 1960s when she modeled herself on American singer/songwriters such as Joan Baez and Pete Seeger. Having released nearly 50 recordings since the late 1960s, many of them now gold or platinum, she has amassed a large following in her native Israel and among Jewish communities worldwide. Alberstein’s voice, soft, but precise and clear, is a pleasure to listen to whether or not one understands her language. Her wide-ranging repertoire includes everything from tender love songs to defiant songs about peace and dignity. Her songs often flow between nostalgic Yiddish folk songs and modern Hebrew language poems.

Originally born in Szczecin, Poland, Alberstein’s family moved to Israel when she was only 4 years old. After discovering music at an early age, she quickly developed into a performer of “world music” by singing songs in English, French, Spanish, and Yiddish during her first public performance. Alberstein has continued this “world music” tradition throughout her life, by releasing more than 40 albums in Hebrew, six of which have been awarded the Kinor David prize, Israel’s version of the Grammy Award. She has also released six albums in Yiddish, and an English album of standards ranging from Gershwin to Lennon and McCartney.

This performance ends the VIVA! Festival of Performing Arts for the 2002-03 season. Information regarding the 2003-04 season will be available by mid-summer.

The museum receives operating support from the Ohio Arts Council. Promotional support for VIVA! is provided by WN WV The Wave 107.3.

The Cleveland Museum of Art is one of America’s leading comprehensive museums. Its permanent collection is world renowned for its quality and breadth, spanning 6,000 years. The museum is a significant international forum for exhibitions, scholarship and art acquisitions. For more information on the museum, its holdings, programs, services and events, call 1-888-CMA-0033 or visit www.ClevelandArt.org.

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Editors Please Note: Color images are available upon request. Interviews with the performer may be arranged upon request.